140. Unemployment.

MR. P. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI (*Member, Municipal Council, Vaikom*) speaking on the problem of unemployment as it existed in Travancore at the present time traced it primarily to the defects of the system of education obtaining in the country. In his opinion the purely literary kind of education imparted in the schools and colleges of the State left the students unfit to earn their livelihood and made them depend more and more on the chances of Government service. In order to put an end to this state of affairs the member would make the following suggestions :—

(1) Higher education should be made more costly.

(2) All vernacular middle and high schools and 50 per cent of the English high schools should be abolished.

(3) Arts and handicrafts should be taught in all schools.

(4) Sewing, domestic economy etc., should be taught in girls' schools.

(5) Technical, industrial and commercial schools should be opened in all parts of the country.

With a view to providing more employment to the educated young men of the country, the member suggested that (1) State Railways should be run by the State itself ; (2) Travancoreans should be employed in connection with the proposed hydro-electric works ; (3) lands should be liberally registered in the names of educated young men particularly of the Nair, Ezhava, and Vellala communities who were adversely affected by the recent social legislations ; (4) agricultural loans should be issued on more liberal terms ; and (5) a full time president must be appointed for the Economic Development Board. It should be the duty of the latter officer to make an economic survey of Travancore and study the local conditions of each taluk.

DEWAN'S REPLY : Mr. Balakrishna Pillai, there is a great deal of what is very sound in your criticism of the educational system obtaining in the State today both in the direction of higher English education and in the direction of mass education in the vernacular. As to the remedial methods you propose, there are, I have no doubt, some here who consider them to be drastic, if not unnecessary. But, nevertheless, I clearly perceive that the correctives you propose to apply are directed to certain wise objectives. Bearing these ideals in view, there is no doubt that a change in method is called for. As I have said before, we are now waiting upon the Unemployment Committee, and until that committee's report is made available to us, I think we can better suspend for the moment the propounding of remedies.

141. Rural development.

MR. JOSEPH MALIAKAL (*Member, Nominated*) speaking on the problem of rural development first dealt with the question of land-taxes and the way in which they affected the ryots. Land-taxes were now collected in four instalments, which meant that the ryots were troubled four times in the year for the tax. Moreover two of the instalments had to be paid in seasons when the money market was very tight. The member therefore suggested that the tax might be made payable in two instalments and that in the two harvesting seasons *viz* Kanni and Medam. When the tax was not paid in time demand notices should be issued and actually served on the parties. Fraudulent services of notices should be severely dealt with. The cost of the demand notice should also be reduced from four chackrams to one chackram. When taxes were paid by the parties, receipts in due form should be given for them, lest there should be double demands and double payments.

The necessity for revising the Puduval rules was brought to the notice of Government a long time ago. But the question was still pending with them. One of the points on which the ryots wanted immediate relief was the registry of Sirkar lands under private occupation. The Revenue authorities mercilessly put up the lands to auction, evicted the occupants and even made them liable to payment of the cost of removing the improvements.

The superior officers of the Land Revenue Department who were supposed to be on Jamabandi work did not come into personal contact with the ryots. They

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